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Appendix I.

[Vide answer to question No. 51 asked by Mr. K. R. Karant at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 7th August 1929, page 148 supra.]

Minutes of the Agricultural Conference.

A conference was held at Government House on 11th January 1929 at 5-30 p.m. His Excellency the Governor presided.

Present:

The hon. the Chief Minister.
,, Minister for Public Health.
,, Minister for Development.
,, the Finance Member.
The Director of Agriculture.
,, Director of Veterinary Services, Madras.
,, Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
,, Director of Public Instruction.
,, Chief Conservator of Forests.
,, Secretary, Development Department.

2. The formation of a Provincial Committee for implementing the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture in India in so far as they relate to this Presidency was discussed and the conclusions detailed below were arrived at.

3. In paragraph 57 of their report, the Royal Commission on Agriculture in India recommended the formation in each province of a local advisory committee. His Excellency the Governor after consultation with his Ministers and heads of departments has appointed an Agricultural Advisory Committee in Madras Presidency which will consist of the following members :—

(1) His Excellency the Governor as President,
(2) The hon. the Minister for Development,
(3) ,, the Minister for Local Self-Government,
(4) ,, the Finance Member,
(5) The Director of Public Instruction,
(6) ,, Director of Public Health,
(7) ,, Registrar of Co-operative Societies,
(8) ,, Director of Agriculture,
(9) ,, Director of Veterinary Services, Madras,
(10) ,, Director of Industries,
(11) ,, Director of Fisheries,

and four non-officials to be nominated by His Excellency.

The Secretary to Government, Development Department, will act as Secretary to the Committee.

4. The Committee will hold regular meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at which His Excellency will endeavour to preside and such other subsidiary meetings as they may decide to be necessary. The Committee will have power to co-opt members, both official and non-official, for the consideration and examination of special subjects, to consult officials

and non-officials on such subjects as they deem fit, and to appoint sub-committees of their own members and such officials and non-officials to examine special subjects.

5. The first duty of the Committee will be to examine the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture in India which have a provincial bearing and to decide which of these recommendations it is advisable to adopt in this Presidency and the best ways and means of carrying them out. In cases where the adoption of these recommendations involves the appointment of staff and expenditure of money the Committee will draw up a considered scheme and detailed estimate for submission to Government through the regular channels.

6. One object of this Committee will be to ensure that co-operation between the different departments concerned with rural welfare which the Royal Commission desire and were so anxious to secure.

7. On the suggestion of the President it was also resolved that any important subject connected with agriculture which also had any connexion with other departments of Government should be submitted by the Development Secretariat to this Committee for joint discussion and its recommendation. Such files should not, as is now the case, be circulated to the departments concerned and noted upon by such departments. The above procedure will not apply to cases in which only the Agricultural and Finance Departments are concerned. Such cases need not be submitted to the Committee.

8. A case of the nature now pending is that relating to the rates of grazing fees levied by the Forest department. With this may be linked perhaps the general question of grazing grounds and the file relating to the point raised recently by the Director of Veterinary Services, Madras, as to whether the Livestock section may not with advantage be transferred *en bloc* to the Veterinary department, excluding of course the Central Farm at Coimbatore.

9. In the same way the Committee will deal in the first place with all important proposals made by non-official agencies and now submitted to different Development Departments and in this way co-ordination will be ensured and definite policies formulated.

10. The first meeting of the Committee will be held on Thursday the 14th February 1929 at 5 p.m. at Government House.

Minutes of the meeting of the Madras Agricultural Advisory Committee held on 14th February 1929 at 5-30 p.m. at Government House.

Present:

His Excellency the Governor—*President.*
The hon. the Minister for Development.
,, the Finance Member.
The Director of Veterinary Services, Madras.
,, Chief Conservator of Forests.
,, Director of Agriculture.
,, Director of Industries.
,, Director of Fisheries.
,, Director of Public Health.
,, Secretary to Government, Development Department.

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Agenda.

(1) Proposal for standardizing forest grazing fees and improving the grazing facilities generally.

(2) Proposal by the Director of Veterinary Services, Madras, that all cattle-breeding and cattle work should be transferred to the Veterinary department from the Agricultural department.

(3) To consider the recommendations made in Chapter IV of the Royal Commission's report—particularly the following :—

(3) The collation and publication of all the available information regarding the composition and characteristics of Indian soils (paragraph 76).

(5) & (6) The necessity for the appointment of a Soil Physics Expert (paragraphs 77 and 78).

(12) The expansion of subsidized manurial experimental stations on the lines of that now being started at Marteru (paragraphs 80 and 81).

(24) The necessity for the establishment of activated sludge plants (paragraph 84).

(29) The possibility of remission of water charges for growing green dressing crops (paragraph 86).

(31) The possibility of extending the oil-crushing industry (paragraph 87).

(36) An investigation of the economics of the bone-crushing industry (paragraph 91).

(39) Railway concessions on fertilizer transport (paragraph 95).

(42) Hybridization work (paragraph 97).

1. It was resolved to drop the first item on agenda—Proposal for standardizing forest grazing fees, etc.

The Director of Agriculture also suggested the formation of a sub-committee to examine items (1) and (2) which had much in common, in a comprehensive manner.

As it was considered both possible and desirable to consider item (2) by itself, and without recourse to any assistance from departments other than the three concerned, namely, Forests, Agriculture and Veterinary, it was decided to take up the consideration of item (2) by itself.

For this purpose, the Director of Veterinary Services, Madras, and the Director of Agriculture were requested to forward to the Secretary to the Committee memoranda giving such previous history of the proposal as was available in the official records of their respective departments, and the grounds on which they would urge for or against the proposal.

When the main issue, as to which of these two departments is best equipped to undertake the duties pertaining to cattle-breeding and livestock generally, has been settled, it is proposed to take up the question of grazing which is the only aspect of this question in which the Forest department is concerned.

2. *Recommendations contained in Chapter IV of the Royal Cmmission's Report—Collation and publication of information, already available, regarding composition and characteristics of Indian soils.*—The Director of Agriculture pointed out that a very considerable amount of work had already been done on this subject, but that the results of this work had never been collected and published.

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The hon. the Finance Member then drew attention to the very comprehensive classification of soils available in the settlement reports of districts, and observed that to collect all this into one treatise dealing with the subject, would entail an amount of work rather out of proportion to its value.

The hon. the President held that publication of the results of research, was part of the duties of any Central Committee for research, and that this question may wait the formation of such a committee.

(5) & (6) As this item—the appointment of a soil physics expert—had already been included in the scheme of reorganization submitted by the Director of Agriculture, it was resolved not to consider it now.

(12) *Subsidized Manurial Experimental Stations.*—The Director of Agriculture explained briefly the nature of such stations, which would be under the control and in the charge of the Agricultural department. The collaborating firms would pay for the actual cost of the trials on a pro rata basis. The only cost to Government would be in connexion with staff. An extra assistant would be needed on each such station opened. The firms participating in the scheme were desirous, partly to improve their own manures by the help of local expert experience with them, but chiefly to market manures with a definite and authoritative recommendation behind them.

The hon. the Finance Member thought that there was no objection to the scheme from any financial point of view, as Government was not asked to pay for the manure used. It was resolved that the formation of such stations might with advantage be encouraged by Government.

(29) Postponed.

(31) The Director of Industries was asked to submit a memorandum relating to the previous history of this question.

The Director of Agriculture agreed to collaborate in its preparation, as the question had an agricultural as well as a purely industrial aspect.

(36) The Director of Industries was asked to prepare a note on this.

(39) As Railways had already offered concessions, and as the question of Railway transport was really a central subject, it was resolved not to go further into the question.

(42) *Hybridization work.*—Briefly discussed.

The following questions were discussed in connexion with grazing :—

(1) Whether the Forest department had ever made any efforts to improve grazing in forests by the introduction either of fresh varieties of grass, or by improving the strains of existing grass.

The Chief Conservator referred to attempts made in the Silent Valley and in Tinnevelly (Tirukurangudi Hills, near Mancholai and Navalkadai) to introduce Guinea grass. He was asked to submit a brief memorandum containing such information as was available in his department on that subject.

The Forest Panchayat Officer informed the Committee that apart from improvement of water facilities in Panchayat reserves, and the preservation of existing grass-supplies by a more judicious system of regulating grazing in such reserves, nothing had hitherto been done.

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(2) With regard to certain departmental objections that had been raised regarding the status of this Committee reference was made to the fact that its functions were purely of an advisory nature, as had been indicated in its resolution No. 7, dated 11th January 1929.

The President further pointed out that no information should be asked for from other departments of Government until such information was essential with reference to some specific question before the Committee. The Development Department had committed an error in procedure in asking for information from other departments, merely on the basis of the commission's recommendations, before such information was really needed for the purposes of the Committee.

Minutes of the meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee.

A meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee was held at the Secretariat, Stonehouse Hill, on 14th May 1929, at 11-30 a.m. His Excellency the Governor presided.

Present :

The hon. the Finance Member.
,, the Minister for Development.
The Director of Agriculture, Madras.
,, Director of Veterinary Services, Madras.
,, Director of Public Instruction.
,, Chief Conservator of Forests.
,, Director of Industries.
,, Director of Public Health.
,, Secretary to Government, Local Self-Government Department.
M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib V. Krishna Menon Avargal.
,, B. P. Sesha Reddi Garu.
,, Rao Bahadur K. S. Venkatarama Ayyar Avargal, B.A.
The Under Secretary to Government, Development Department.

Agenda for the meeting :—

(1) Proposal of the Director of Veterinary Services that all cattle-breeding and cattle-work should be transferred from the Agricultural department to the Veterinary department.

(2) Grazing. Whether the Forest department has ever made any efforts to improve grazing in forests by the introduction either of fresh varieties of grass or by improving the strains of existing grass.

(3) The establishment in all provinces of regulated markets on the Berar system as modified by the Bombay Legislation is recommended.

The system of regulated markets should be extended to products other than cotton.

Regulated markets should only be established under provincial legislation.

(Paragraphs 329 and 330 at pages 390 to 392 of the Royal Commission's Report.)

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(4) The desirability of appointing an officer of the grade of Deputy Director of Agriculture to work under the Registrar of Co-operative Societies as recommended by the Madras Committee on Co-operation might be examined. (Chapter XIII—Recommendation No. 38, based on paragraph 388 at pages 472–473 of the Report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture.)

(5) *Agenda for the June meeting* :—

His Excellency the President called upon Mr. Ware to open discussion on the first subject on the agenda. After a detailed discussion, in which most of the members present took part as to the merits of the proposal, the Committee were finally of opinion that for the present there was no case for changing the system now existing.

The second subject on the agenda was then taken up for discussion. Mr. Richmond stated that nothing effective had been done so far in the Forest department to improve the quality of grass grown in grazing areas. He challenged the note submitted by the Director of Agriculture and said that he thought that the note could not be considered as accurate. Mr. Anstead admitted his note was subject to correction and that it was meant to help the Chief Conservator with such facts as would be useful to him in drawing up the note submitted by him. After some discussion it was decided to call upon the Forest department to prepare a note for the Committee showing how the existing grazing areas could be better utilized than at present for grazing purposes.

The third subject was then taken up and it was decided that a draft Bill should be prepared to introduce a general Act for examination by the Committee and that if such an Act be introduced its application should be confined to cotton in the first place.

The fourth subject, as it was not ready for discussion, was postponed to the next meeting.

It was decided that the next meeting should be held on Monday, the 17th June 1929.

Minutes of the meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee.

A meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee was held at the Secretariat, Stonehouse Hill, on 15th June 1929 at 12 noon. His Excellency the Governor presided.

Present:

The hon. the Finance Member.
,, the Minister for Development.
The Director of Agriculture.
,, Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
,, Director of Public Instruction.
,, Director of Industries.
,, Director of Veterinary Services.
,, Director of Public Health.
M.R.Ry. B. P. Sesha Reddi Garu.
,, Rao Sahib V. Krishna Menon Avargal.
,, Rao Bahadur K. S. Venkatarama Ayyar Avargal.
The Under Secretary to Government, Development Department.

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The first subject on the agenda was :—

Item 1—*Grazing in forests*—

Continuation of the discussion at the May meeting. Consideration of further points on which notes were called for at that meeting.

This subject was adjourned as the note called for by the Committee from the Chief Conservator was not ready.

Item 2.—The desirability of appointing an officer of the grade of Deputy Director of Agriculture to work under the Registrar of Co-operative Societies as recommended by the Madras Committee on Co-operation might be examined (Chapter XIII, recommendation No. 38, based on paragraph 388 at pages 472—473 of the Report on the Royal Commission on Agriculture).

It was agreed that a Deputy Director of Agriculture may be lent to the Co-operative Department for a period of two years as an experimental measure, that his activities should be confined to cotton in the first instance and that at the end of the two years a full report on both the purely agricultural side of his activities and on the problem of marketing should be submitted to the Committee.

Item 3.—Seeds, seedling plants and cuttings of exotic varieties of indigenous species imported for experimental sowing or planting should be exempted from import duty.

The Director of Agriculture was for removing the duty on barley to start with. The hon. the Finance Member pointed out that it would be better to get the exemption for all seeds.

The necessity for exemption from duty was agreed upon. It was suggested that the matter may be taken up with the Council of Agricultural Research. As this is a subject in which almost all the provinces, if not all are likely to be interested, the Director of Agriculture, who is proceeding to Simla, was asked to ascertain at Simla and report as to the procedure to be adopted in cases like this.

Item 4.—No new variety should be put out unless it has been thoroughly well established that it possesses marked advantages over those already grown.

The Committee emphasized the importance as recommended by the Royal Commission on Agriculture of not introducing new varieties unless it has been thoroughly well established that it possesses marked advantages over those already grown and also that improved varieties should be thoroughly tested in the conditions under which they would be grown by the cultivator, a policy which the Madras Agricultural Department has already adopted and desires to extend.

Item 5.—In all provinces in which pumping and boring operations are in progress on a considerable scale, the engineering section should be divided into two branches, one for work on agricultural machinery and implements and the other for pumping and boring.

Before taking up this item, His Excellency the President wished to know whether immediately after the Industries Department had finished their work in boring operations the Agricultural Department were stepping in and developing further the improvements effected by the former department. The Director of Industries said that this was not being done and that in future this would be carried out.

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As action on these lines is being taken at present in this province no further action is considered necessary on these two items.

Item 6.—The preparation of suitable text-books for use in primary schools in rural areas is a matter of the greatest importance. It is essential that Text-book Committee should be so constituted as to command confidence.

The Director of Public Instruction explained the functions of the Text-book Committee and stated that there were very few books of the kind contemplated. A special officer would be required to prepare books of the kind contemplated.

Finally the Committee were of opinion that it was undesirable to attempt teaching agriculture to pupils who usually would be below twelve years and that no action need be taken on the recommendation.

Item 7.—The only method by which the advantages of the supply of combined nitrogen available in the large groups of oil seeds grown in India can be secured, is by the natural development of the oil-crushing industry and the possibilities of an extension of the industry should be investigated.

The Director of Industries pointed out that the only way to retain the oil seed manure would be to supply better methods of extracting oil so that the export of the by-products would be discouraged. The hon'ble the Finance Member stated that about twenty years ago the groundnut crop was practically unknown and that it was because there was foreign demand for the same that the ryots have taken to its cultivation on a large scale. If export was discouraged, it would induce the ryots to abandon this cultivation.

It was finally decided that it was best to leave the matter alone.

Item 8.—A thorough investigation of the economics of the bone-crushing industry is required before the establishment of bone-crushing factories at suitable centres can be recommended.

Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar instanced the case of the industry at Shiyali which turned out to be a failure.

The Director of Agriculture stated that, while about twenty years ago the price of bone-meal was Rs. 56, it is now about Rs. 120. He pointed out that if the price could be reduced to Rs. 85 there would be a ready demand for it from the ryots who could only then consider it as an economic proposition.

The Registrar of Co-operative Societies said that it was possible for some of the societies to purchase bones and sell them as bone-meal for about Rs. 85. The difficulty he found was in obtaining a demand for the same. The Director of Agriculture suggested raising export duty on these so that it may be prevented from leaving the country. He also pointed out that the price was being raised by the middlemen who were really being benefited by the high price obtained outside.

Hon'ble Finance Member pointed out that it would be difficult to prevent a ryot from selling the bone outside for Rs. 125 and compel him to utilize it for manure locally. He pointed out the fallacy in the remedy suggested inasmuch as it would be not Rs. 85, but Rs. 125 worth of manure that is used and accordingly cannot be considered an economic proposition.

It was agreed that nothing could be done to establish bone-crushing factories so long as the price of the bone-meal remained high.

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Mr. V. Krishna Menon enquired whether all the members of the Committee including the non-official members, were permitted to suggest subjects for discussion. This was agreed to.

Before the Committee adjourned, Mr. K. S. Venkatarama Ayyar on behalf of the Committee thanked His Excellency the Governor who is shortly leaving the Presidency for the great interest he has evinced in the agricultural development of this province, one of the results of which was the formation of this Committee.

His Excellency the President thanked the speaker and said that he was really glad to have been able to do something for agriculture in this province.

The meeting then terminated.

M. C. B. KOMAN.

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 54-A asked by Mr. J. A. Saldanha at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 7th August 1929, page 150 supra.]

(1) Trades School, Mangalore—
One Superintendent on Rs. 200—20—500.
One lecturer in motor work on Rs. 125—5—175.
One instructor on Rs. 50—2½—70.
One clerk on Rs. 35—60.
Two peons on Rs. 12 to 18 each.

(2) Industrial School, Calicut—
One Superintendent on Rs. 200—20—500.
One lecturer in motor work on Rs. 125—5—175.
One cabinet making instructor on Rs. 40—2½—60.
One smithy instructor on Rs. 40—2½—60.
One clerk on Rs. 35—60.
One store-keeper on Rs. 35—60.
Two peons on Rs. 12 to 18 each.

(3) Industrial School, Bellary—
One Superintendent on Rs. 200—20—500.
One cabinet making instructor on Rs. 40—2½—60.
One smithy instructor on Rs. 40—2½—60.
One clerk store-keeper on Rs. 35—60.
Two peons on Rs. 12 to 18 each.

NOTE.—The above staff is sanctioned for a period of five years from 1st June 1929 and the posts will be filled up only as and when required.